

12 TO 50 PER CENT TIME LOST AT MINES DUE TO "SLACKERS"

Records Show That Comparatively Few Workers Made Full Time.

BIG MONEY TO STEADY MEN

Both In Average Earnings Per Day and In the Monthly Totals, for 27 Days Time Paid Reached \$275.65, Or At the Rate of \$10.52 for Each Day.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The failure of the coal miners to take advantage of the days of work open to them has been pointed up in a investigation of the President's Commission into the bituminous coal industry as having a vital bearing upon the whole controversy.

The coal operators in their arguments before the commission have put in data taken from no mine records as evidence that the miners have not been working to take advantage of the working time of the mines. While the mine workers' representatives have urged the commission to advance the daily pay to give the miner a decent living wage the operators have insisted that it is the miner's own fault if he has failed to make more money.

Data from the mine shafts, the representative of which the operators have shown, that the "slacker" as the absentee has been characterized has lost from 12 to 50 per cent of the time the mines have operated. In many districts the miners work only three days out of four. It has been shown in other districts where the irregularity is greater, the miners work but three days out of five and in the districts where absenteeism is the greatest the miners lay off every other day.

All of this the operators say has been sedulously concealed by the union representatives in their appearance before the coal commission. The facts were brought to light when the mine payroll for the first time were laid to public view during the week.

In othering their data the operators urged that the commission seriously consider the deliberate "slacking" of miners in arriving at any judgment as to the necessity for an increase in wage. Industrious miners who take advantage of the working time available the operators emphasized can make from \$6.00 to \$10.00 and even \$18.00 a day and for periods running up to 250 days or more a year.

The mine figures of the operators the latter insist, definitely controvert the assertion of the miners' representatives that the miners wage average is \$5.00 a day. Even without the recent 14 per cent advance, the operators say, the miners wage is proven to be more than enough to meet the cost of living.

Through the application of the 14 per cent advance, the operators' figures show the wage of the lowest paid miner has been advanced from approximately \$5.00 to \$5.74 and \$7.00 while for the miner who works regularly, the advance in some districts has put his wage considerably beyond \$12.00 a day. The miners making \$15.00 and \$18.00 a day are those who remain steadily on the job and do the highest class of work.

The effect of regularity of work on the miners' wages has been clearly evidenced in the evidence offered the commission by the operators. In the Pittsburgh "thin-vein" district it has been shown that while pick miners made \$112.29 or an average of \$6.23 a day when they worked only 18 days of the running time, miners who worked the full available time of 27 days made \$244.42 in the month or an average of \$9.05 a day. Had the man who chose to work only two thirds of the time worked the whole 27 days he could have added \$56.07 to his wages for the month making his pay for the month \$168.38 instead of \$112.29.

By the application of the 14 per cent advance the daily average for the miner who worked 18 days was raised \$6.23 to \$7.10 in the Pittsburgh district while for the steady man who worked whenever he could it advanced from \$9.50 to \$10.82 or \$278.65 for a month of 27 days.

What the miner can make when he exerts himself was shown by the payroll sheets for October 1919 just before the strike. In this month miners made a much greater daily and monthly average than they did in the early part of the year.

The marked difference between the product of the mines when the men work with something approaching regularity against the product of those affected by the "slacker" has been shown by data from Illinois. Sixty per cent of the shipping mines of Illinois it has been shown, where the men work more regularly, produce 92 per cent of the aggregate tonnage of the state there being in an average tonnage of 1,200 for each employee.

On the other hand approximately 45 per cent of the shipping mines with an annual output of less than 100,000 tons produce less than 100 per cent of the state's tonnage. In these mines the average annual tonnage per employee runs less than 600 tons.

But the 14 per cent advance of the operators would have made it impossible for the miner to make more than \$10.52 a day, the practice of the coal industry has been to use the 14 per cent advance to cause the miner to work longer hours for the same rate of pay.

Steel Order, Increase.
NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation on January 3 were 9,285,441 tons, according to the corporation's monthly statement issued Tuesday. This is an increase of 1,920,075 tons compared with the orders on December 31.

TIPPLE AT STANDARD NO. 1 SHAFT OF FRICK COMPANY FIRE DAMAGED

Entire Top of Structure Burned Away, Men in Mine Made Way Out Through No. 3 Shaft.

MOUNT PLEASANT, Feb. 6.—The tipple at Standard No. 1 shaft of the Frick company at Standard, Putnam county, the mine at the time were warned at the beginning of the blaze and made their way out through the shaft at Standard No. 3 shaft. The entire upper portion of the tipple was destroyed down to the bottom of the bin.

The fire was discovered immediately by employees at work on the tipple and J. W. Printz, chief of the mine, called the fire department. The fire truck arrived at the tipple at 10:30 p.m. and the fire was extinguished. The damage was estimated at \$10,000.

On a few men were in the mine at the time of the fire which was confined to the tipple. The day shift had completed its work. There are three other openings to the mine. Coal was being hoisted today as usual and immediately after the fire was taken to make repairs. No estimate of the damage was given.

The flames were used from Mount Pleasant, shooting high into the air.

MACHINE MINED COAL TOTALLED 323,931,133 TONS DURING YEAR

Was 55.9 Per Cent of Whole Bituminous Production Pennsylvania Had With 95,341,191 Tons.

The following statistics of the production of soft coal by machines in 1918 are published for the information of the Bituminous Coal Commission in advance of the appearance of the Geological Survey's regular annual report for 1918.

The number of machines in use was found to be 18,453 at the close of 1918, over 1917 and 2,000 over 1916. The tonnage mined by machines was 323,931,133 tons, an increase of 17,955,000 tons, or 5.9 per cent, as compared with 1917.

In 1918 the per cent of the total output mined by machine was 55.9. In 1917 it was 55.5 and in 1916 55.2. The proportion of machine-mined coal in 1918 was thus greater than in 1917 but less than in 1916.

The following table shows the production of soft coal by machines in 1918 by state:

State	Machines	Quantity in tons
Alabama	11	9,521,414
Arizona	4	1,874,031
Colorado	2	6,276,911
Illinois	25	14,847,517
Indiana	22	17,677,774
Iowa	15	8,314,141
Kentucky	1,624	24,808,171
Maryland	25	10,196,141
Michigan	11	1,000,000
Missouri	104	1,116,681
Montana	11	1,267,774
New Mexico	1	25,141
North Dakota	6	44,451
Ohio	198	3,812,441
Oklahoma	13	1,809,441
Pennsylvania	6,909	24,131,141
Tennessee	1	1,141
Texas	1	1,000,000
Utah	14	1,000,000
Virginia	1	1,000,000
Washington	4	1,000,000
West Virginia	1	1,000,000
Wyoming	16	1,000,000
Total	13,116	323,931,133

ONE LILLEY EXECUTOR

Named, Other Will Be When He Comes of Age On February 22.

Reversing his decision that Thomas Elliott of South Brown, who could not be granted letters of administration in the estate of the late Thomas J. Lilley, the millionaire coal operator of near West Brownsville until the other executor, Jacob Elliott, because of age on February 22, the recorder of the Washington county, on Thursday appointed the former and announced that the latter will also be appointed in accordance with provisions of Mr. Lilley's will.

Mr. Lilley died January 7, leaving an estate valued at between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 largely in trust for his grandson, Thomas Elliott, general manager and secretary treasurer of the Lilley Coal company. (Accounts were filed in Washington against a mission of the will to prolate but these were later withdrawn and the filing of the will permitted. However the county register refused to grant letters testamentary to Thomas Elliott until yesterday.

Under the terms of the will some relatives were named as executors but the bulk of the estate was placed in trust for 99 years, then to be apportioned among the descendants of Thomas Elliott, even in principle, legatee.

B. & O. CHANGES

E. A. Peck, Pittsburgh, Sent to Cleveland, O. T. Eaton to Pittsburgh. A. Peck, assistant general superintendent of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad located in Pittsburgh has been transferred to Cleveland as general superintendent of the northwest district. Mr. Peck succeeded Edward W. Schoer, who took Mr. Cahill's place as general superintendent of the Maryland division of the railroad with headquarters in Baltimore.

C. F. Volcan of Pittsburgh has been made chairman of the Pittsburgh operating commission. Mr. Peck, O. T. Eaton formerly a partner in the local division has been named representative of the Pittsburgh operating committee or the Baltimore and Ohio railroad.

New Works Started at Weirton. Work has been started on the new mills and furnaces of the Weirton Steel company. Weirton, W. Va. Advertisements to be completed by June will give the plant a yearly capacity of 100,000 tons of ingots with open hearth furnaces and blooming roughing and combination sheet, bar and sheet mills.

LIST OF COKE OVENS IN THE CONNELLSVILLE DISTRICT With their Owners, Address and Ovens in Blast Corrected to Saturday, February 7, 1926.

Ovens	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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field, Ala.	77
Citizens Gas Co., Indianapolis, Ind.	49
Indiana Coke and Gas Co., Terra Haute, Ind.	30
Bethlehem Steel Corp., Sparrows Point, Md.	182
Seaboard By-product Coke Co., Kearny, N. J.	55

9,871	6,817	PIERNACE OVENS.	
400	100	Pittsburg Steel Co.	Atleola, Pa., Co.
100		H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
570		Brier Hill Coal Co.	Brier Hill
425	260	Buffington	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
500	100	Colonial No. 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
154	136	Colonial No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
200		Colonial No. 3	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
230	250	Doarth	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
500		Edenborn	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
200	264	Fairbank	Struthers Coal & Coke Co.
400		Fayetteville	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
292	262	Georgetown	McCormick Coal Co.
209		Labelle	Labelle Coal Co.
442		Lambert	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
515		Leckrone	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
300		Liberty	Republic Iron & Steel Co.
24		Newcomer	H. C. Frick Coke Co.
100	300	Orient	American Coal Corporation
100	340	Republic	Republic Iron & Steel Co.
1000		Shaw	Shaw Coal Co.
400	300	Thompson	Westmore Coal & Coke Co.
6,886	5,022		

transportation purposes and the free movement of coal so essential to the conduct of the war. Following the signing of the armistice on that date,

longer permissible," and that since the passage of that law "the property of every public utility in Pennsylvania

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Weeks letter

Uniontown Pennsylvania

Wife: Mrs. AMANDA T. RAY, of Brownsville, Texas. The deceased was a
